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The portion devoted in this work to the structure of insects seems to us too great, as there are good text-books on general entomology, but the physiological portions, especially those on the metamorphoses and reproduction of insects, are of immediate value to the practical observer. We miss full accounts with good illustration of the parasitic habits of ichneumonons and Tachinæ. What is said of the influence of temperature, dampness and wind on insect life is valuable, as also the account of insect-destroying fungi, with the excellent cuts. While the work should give the student full theoretical knowledge it should emphasize all the facts leading to practical field work and observation.

CLAUS' ELEMENTARY TEXT-BOOK OF ZOOLOGY.—We have already called attention to the first part of this work, which has been translated by Sedgwick and Heathcote. The second part embraces mollusks, Tunicata and vertebrates, the spaces given to the last group being in our opinion too little; in such a book certainly one-half of the matter should be devoted to vertebrate animals. In point of treatment, and excellence of the illustrations the high character of the first part is well sustained in this the concluding part. The old meaningless group of Molluscoidea is, however, retained for the Bryozoa and Brachiopoda. To place these two groups of what may with safety be regarded as composite types of worms in a group equivalent in rank to the Arthropoda or Vertebrata shows lack of judgment. The author remarks in justification: "With the increase in our knowledge of their developmental history, it appears more and more probable, not only that the two groups are descended from an ancestral form common to them and the annelids, but also that in spite of the considerable differences between them in the adult state, they are in reality closely related, a supposition which agrees with the great resemblance of their larvæ."

The Tunicata are placed next to the vertebrates, above the mollusks and Molluscoidea, a position now seemed warranted.

The treatment of the Mammalia is, like that of the birds, antiquated, no reference being made to the new groups of extinct forms and the subsequent modifications which should be made in the classification of the class; besides, too little space is given to this most important of all classes of animals.

UPHAM'S FLORA OF MINNESOTA.<sup>1</sup>—The State of Minnesota is to be congratulated upon the appearance of so creditable a volume in its Annual Geological Report. The author has done a good work well and thoroughly, and has placed before the people of his State a work which will take rank as one of the best of its kind ever issued by the officers of a State survey. A good

<sup>1</sup> *Catalogue of the flora of Minnesota*, including its Phaenogamous and Vascular Cryptogamous plants, indigenous, naturalized and adventive. By WARREN UPHAM. Part VI of the annual report of progress [Geol. and Nat. Hist. Survey] for the year 1883. Minneapolis, Johnson, Smith & Harrison, 1884, pp. 193, with 1 plate.